

## 4 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

This chapter describes consultation activities that have been conducted in relation to, and subsequent of, the release of the EIS for public comment. The information presented builds on the EIS, Volume 1, Chapter 4 Community Consultation, and should be read in conjunction with the EIS chapter.

### 4.1 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SCOPE

Ongoing engagement and consultation with the community has continued since the publication of the EIS in December 2008, including consultation with the Wandoan community and local landholders in relation to proposed refinements and modifications made to the Project since the release of the EIS. The following outlines additional community engagement activities undertaken between December 2008 and May 2009.

### 4.2 COMMUNITY APPROACH AND ACTIVITIES

#### 4.2.1 PROJECT NEWSLETTERS AND MAILINGS

A letter and a copy of the Integrated EIS Summary were sent to affected landholders, elected representatives, NGO stakeholders, members of the Community Reference Group, traditional owners and other key community members in December 2008 to promote the release of the EIS and to encourage submissions from the community.

#### 4.2.2 COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

A series of fact sheets were produced and distributed to the community in December 2008 to summarise the contents of the EIS. Copies of these fact sheets were available at the EIS public meetings, EIS displays in public libraries, at the Xstrata Shopfront in Wandoan and on the Wandoan Coal Project website ([www.wandoancoal.com.au](http://www.wandoancoal.com.au)). Copies of the fact sheets are included in Appendix 4-2-SV1.4.

#### 4.2.3 PROJECT ADVERTISEMENTS

In addition to advertising of the EIS for public consultation by the Coordinator-General on 6 December 2008, the WJV ran a series of advertisements to promote the release of the EIS and encourage submissions from the community. Advertisements were placed in regional and local newspapers including the *Weekend Australian*, *Courier Mail*, *Chinchilla News*, *Murilla Advertiser* and *Roma Western Star*, township newsletters including the *Window on Wandoan* and the *Taroom Tidings*, as well as posted on local noticeboards. Media releases were also sent out the regional and local print and radio media to promote the release of the EIS and encourage submissions from the community. Copies of the advertisements and media releases are included in Appendix 4-3-SV1.4.

#### 4.2.4 COMMUNITY SURVEY

No further community surveys have been undertaken since the release of the EIS.

#### 4.2.5 COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

A series of open public meetings were held in early December to promote the release of the EIS and encourage submissions from the community. Public meetings were held in Miles, Wandoan and Taroom from 9–11 December, 2008. Approximately 118 members of the community attended these meetings. Copies of the EIS Integrated EIS Summary were distributed in hard copy and full copies of the EIS on memory stick.

A further open public meeting was held in Wandoan on 22 April 2009 to discuss the EIS submissions received and the proposed refinements and modifications to the Project as part of the Supplementary EIS. Over 60 members of the community attended this meeting.

At the public meeting held on 22 April 2009, the WJV discussed:

- a 2 km zone around the western side of the township of Wandoan where mining will not initially be undertaken
- during the initial years of mining, the WJV will assess the results of monitoring of actual mining conditions and compare with modelling results undertaken for the EIS and Supplementary EIS
- mining within the 2 km zone may be undertaken in compliance with the Environmental Authorities if the monitoring indicates mining can be undertaken. The community will be consulted at the time
- the development of the Wubagul Pit south of Frank Creek Pit
- relocation of the Jackson-Wandoan Road re-alignment.

### 4.2.6 PROPERTY OWNER CONSULTATION

A special information session for directly affected property owners was held in Wandoan on 20 January 2009 to discuss the contents of the EIS in more detail.

A further special information session for directly affected property owners was held in Wandoan on 22 April 2009 to discuss their submissions on the EIS and the proposed refinements and modifications to the Project as part of the Supplementary EIS. The majority of directly affected property owners attended these sessions.

Negotiations with individual property owners within the MLA areas are continuing. A total of 17 properties have been purchased from affected property owners, covering 33 lots within the MLA areas. Property valuations are undertaken by independent property valuers as part of the land valuation process, with the value of properties subject to confidential negotiations between the WJV and the specific property owner.

Property owners have also been contacted with regard to their local knowledge of the district. Consultation on local knowledge has included historical flooding and water quality in the district, and local history.

### 4.2.7 COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETINGS

Community Reference Group Meetings were conducted in Wandoan on 8 December 2008 and 22 April 2009 to discuss the contents of the EIS and Supplementary EIS in more detail. Community Reference Group meetings will continue on a regular basis. The next meeting is to be scheduled to coincide with the release of the Supplementary EIS.

### 4.2.8 WANDOAN SHOW AND TAROOM SHOW 2009

The WJV staffed an information display at the Wandoan Show on 20 and 21 April 2009 and at the Taroom Show on 4 and 5 May 2009 to provide the wider community with information about the Project. The Wandoan Coal Project show display was attended by 86 community members. At Taroom Show, the display was attended by 60 community members.

Information presented at the display included:

- general Project information
- maps of the Project area
- an update on the EIS process
- an update on the various community activities undertaken to date.

Attending the Shows provided a unique opportunity for individual discussions with community members and the most common areas for discussion were:

- the updated Project components, the EIS and the Supplementary EIS
- Xstrata Coal's commitment to the Project's progress through the State and Federal Governments' approvals process
- opportunities for local employment and business from the Project.

#### 4.2.9 COMMUNITY CONTACT POINTS

Contact with the local community has greatly increased since the opening of the Xstrata Coal Shopfront in Royd Street, Wandoan in December 2008. The Shopfront is staffed by a Project Liaison Officer for 3 days per week.

Further contact with the community has been maintained through the Project's 1800 phone number, email inbox and web site, which provide community members with access to Project staff and timely answers to questions about the EIS, the Project or Xstrata Coal's activities in the local area. The Project receives on average three phone calls and two emails per week from the community.

The WJV was invited to attend the new Wandoan Interagency Network meeting on 13 May, 2009 along with Queensland Government Agencies and NGO Community Service Organisations, to discuss social needs and the provision of social services in Wandoan. The WJV has made a commitment to continue to participate in this group and integrate learnings into its ongoing community engagement.

Through membership of the Queensland Resources Council Social Policy Working Group, the WJV has input into the Surat Basin Leadership Group, which brings together resource companies, Western Downs Regional Council and Queensland State Government representatives to implement the new Queensland Government Sustainable Resource Communities Policy and funding initiatives.

### 4.3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FINDINGS

#### 4.3.1 COMMUNITY SURVEY

The results of the Community Survey are provided in Volume 1, Chapter 4 Community Consultation Technical Report 4-1-V1.5 of the EIS. Copies of individual responses to the community survey are not provided in the technical report or chapter of the EIS. However, the technical report summarises the individual responses given. No copies of the individual responses are to be provided.

#### 4.3.2 COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Community information sessions held in Wandoan, Taroom and Miles in December 2008 and in Wandoan April 2009 gave community members the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the content of the EIS with the WJV. Issues discussed in these meetings included:

- use of Coal Seam Methane Water and its potential effects on soil
- current land use categorisation
- post mining land form and rehabilitation
- potential dust, noise and vibration impacts on the township of Wandoan
- ongoing community engagement activities and community contributions by the WJV.

#### 4.3.3 PROPERTY OWNER MEETINGS

After preliminary consultation with affected property owners, the proposed mining lease boundary will change to no longer include several properties. On 16 January 2009, the WJV advised the property owners in writing of its intention to change the proposed mining lease boundaries, and its intention to advise the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (formerly Department

of Mines and Energy) of the relinquishment of the properties from the area of the mining leases as part of the mining lease application process. A map of the revised proposed mining lease boundary is provided in 6-1-SV1.3.

#### 4.3.5 CRG MEETINGS

Community Reference Group meetings held in Wandoan in December 2008 and April 2009 gave community members the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the content of the EIS with the WJV. Issues discussed in these meetings included:

- potential impact of changes in population on enrolments at local public school
- potential impact of construction on roads, timing of road closures and diversions and changes to bus routes
- potential upgrade of Taroom Aerodrome or construction of an airstrip at Wandoan
- implementation of the Xstrata Coal's corporate social involvement partnerships with Queensland Health and Education Queensland.

### 4.4 BULK SAMPLE OPERATIONS CONSULTATION

Bulk sample operations originally anticipated in late 2008 or early 2009 have been delayed. When any future bulk sample activities are to be undertaken, the WJV will conduct consultation activities to inform Government agencies and the community.

### 4.5 GAS PIPELINE CONSULTATION

No further consultation activities specifically relating to the gas supply pipeline have been undertaken since the release of the EIS for public comment.

### 4.6 RESULTS

Further to the information presented in the EIS Volume 1, Chapter 4 Community Consultation, section 4.6, Xstrata Coal, as part of the Wandoan Joint Venture, has undertaken and will continue to undertake a number of various community engagement initiatives.

#### 4.6.1 XSTRATA COAL WANDOAN COMMUNITY FUND

In January 2009, Xstrata Coal launched the Xstrata Coal Wandoan Community Fund, a community donations and sponsorship program that supports community initiatives in and around the communities of Wandoan, Taroom and Miles. It is part of Xstrata Coal's commitment to supporting the communities in which it operates.

Six focus areas, being health, education, social and community development, enterprise and job creation, environment, and arts and culture, will receive funding from the Xstrata Coal Wandoan Community Fund. Successful applicants will need to provide services or manage community initiatives that contribute to the wellbeing and development of the communities of Wandoan, Taroom or Miles.

Applications to the Fund are accepted at any time. Funding is distributed quarterly, on dates coordinated with major community events. Applications are reviewed by a committee of company and community representatives who will make recommendations on which groups and projects should be funded.

The first round of donations from the Xstrata Coal Wandoan Community Fund was distributed at a community morning tea in Wandoan on 24 March 2009, as listed in Table 4-1. The second round of donations was made on 31 July 2009, as listed in Table 4-2.

Table 4-1: Xstrata Coal Wandoan Community Fund distribution on 24 March 2009

Fund recipient	Funding
Wandoan Arts Council	Art Gallery hanging track, wires and hooks
Wandoan Amateur Swimming Club Inc.	Swim bench and training fins
Wandoan Bowls Club	Patio extension contribution
Wandoan and District Kindergarten Association	External and internal painting
Wandoan Gun Club Inc.	Fridge for the clubhouse
Wandoan Gymnastics Club Inc.	After schools program and skipping ropes
Wandoan Junior Rugby League Football Club	Field marking equipment
Wandoan Lions Club Inc.	Care Alert System
Wandoan Polocrosse Club Inc.	Polocrosse carnival ambulance contribution
Wandoan Pony Club Inc.	Jump equipment
Wandoan Show Society Inc.	55th Annual Wandoan Show sponsorship
Taroom Shire Landcare Group Inc.	Light projector
Miles Lion Club	Freezer for Miles Showgrounds

Table 4-2: Xstrata Coal Wandoan Community Fund distribution on 31 July 2009

Fund recipient	Funding
Wandoan Apex Club Inc	BBQ for the Apex Park in Wandoan
Wandoan Campdraft Rodeo Association Inc.	Sponsorship for Wandoan Campdraft
Wandoan Golf Club Inc.	Sponsorship for Annual Carnival Day trophies
Wandoan Gymnastics Club Inc.	Sponsorship for Annual Competition
Wandoan Junior Rugby League Football Club Inc	Purchase of electrical equipment
Wandoan Senior Citizen Club	Coach trip
Wandoan State School	Year 7 and 8 Camp
Wandoan State School P&C	Wandoan Under 8's Day and Tuckshop Fridge
Wandoan Tennis Club Inc	Clubhouse Fridge
Wandoan-Taroom Netball Club	Sponsorship for new uniforms and equipment
Juandah Heritage Society Inc.	Sponsorship for Wandoan Q150 Parade
Queensland Council of Carers	Sponsorship for Family Fun Day
Taroom District Fishing Restocking Club Inc.	Funding for fingerling restocking in Glebe Weir
Taroom Kindergarten Ass Inc	Funding for redecorating
Taroom Shire Cancer Palliative Care Group Inc	Funding for water tanks
Taroom Show Society	Sponsorship for Taroom Show

#### 4.6.2 XSTRATA COAL WANDOAN SUPPLIERS LIST

In April 2009, the WJV launched the Wandoan Suppliers List, a mailing list for regional suppliers to register their interest in quoting to supply goods and services to the Project and its major contractors. The WJV is also establishing processes to encourage sourcing and purchasing from local companies. Suppliers considered eligible for listing on the Wandoan Supplier List include businesses located in Wandoan, Taroom, Miles, Roma, Dalby, and surrounding districts.

The WJV will be purchasing a wide range of goods and services, including technical, trade and professional services, as well as construction, electronic and other commercial goods. Part of the WJV tender process for major contractors requires a commitment by them to consider purchase of goods and services locally, where commercially viable.

Regional companies who are interested in quoting to supply goods and services for the Project submit an Expression of Interest. They can then respond to any requests for quotes in the usual way. Expressions of Interest to the WJV Suppliers List will be accepted at any time.

#### 4.6.3 XSTRATA COAL CORPORATE SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS FOR WANDOAN WORTH \$1.47M OVER THREE YEARS

Based on consultation with the Community Reference Group, application was made to Xstrata Coal's Global Corporate Social Involvement Program for funding for two new corporate-community partnerships in Wandoan. These two new partnerships, with the Queensland Department of Education and Training, and Queensland Health, were included as part of Xstrata Coal's 2009 Corporate Social Involvement Program. Xstrata's contribution for these two projects will be \$1,470,000 over three years. Xstrata Coal will work together to scope co-investment and prepare a Memorandum of Understanding for the partnerships.

##### Education Queensland

Xstrata Coal is partnering with Education Queensland to contribute to:

- support literacy programs and teacher aid time to provide targeted literacy and numeracy support for at-risk students
- establish a fund for Wandoan State School Council to oversee distribution of bursaries to students for equipment, transport and tuition that supports their school studies (not sporting or extra curricular activities)
- support the establishment of a Science Centre at Wandoan State School with a focus on geology and resources:
  - provide support and expertise in the planning and development of a Science Centre
  - contribute to purchase of specialist equipment and resources
  - co-develop specialised programs with input from industry and academics
  - provide visiting experts and speakers
  - provide transport and coordination for exploration and mining field trips and work experience
  - contribute to professional development for senior science teachers through industry placement and university alliances
  - provide 'career coaches' to students to offer advice and support on career options
  - support an application for funding through State Schools of Tomorrow to establish university alliances that offer extension units as part of the senior curriculum.
- extend the Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy (QMEA) to Wandoan State School and Taroom State School
  - provide input on tailoring curriculum to use geology, resources and mining for studies enrichment activities
  - coordinate improved access to School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships
  - offer QMEA scholarships to local students
  - contribute to the Trade Training Centre application.
- support the application for a federally-funded Trade Training Centre in the region and fund industry standard equipment for the Trade Training Centre

- provide placements for apprentices and trainees with Xstrata Coal, subject to recruits meeting criteria
- fund an incentive program for local employers to take on apprentices who move from a school-based program to a full-time apprenticeship or traineeship in Wandoan.

### Queensland Health

Xstrata Coal will partner with the Queensland Health to:

- refurbish the existing primary health care clinic at Wandoan to create capacity for more community and clinical services to be delivered on a visiting basis
- construct a new residence for the Director of Nursing to release some additional space for the delivery of primary health care and to assist attraction and retention of nursing staff
- outfit a separate consultation area with separate access to the public health rooms from which a visiting private practitioner could operate a reliable GP service.